

SPONTANEOUS RUPTURE OF THE BLADDER FOLLOWING URETHRAL CALCULOSIS IN BULL CALVES

By

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SUMMARY

Diagnosis of ruptured bladder in bull calves as well as prognosis of such cases were carried out by determination of blood serum urea nitrogen beside the evidence of other clinical symptoms. Surgical treatment of 22 cases and the after care are reported.

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The high incidence of ruptured bladder as a sequel to urethral calculus calls for much concern on the part of both breeders and veterinary surgeons. Rupture of the bladder in particular, constitutes a problem which requires immediate interference otherwise fatal peritonitis and uraemia may ensue. This is true in male calves where catheterisation of the urethra is practically difficult because of its anatomical formation.

It is apparent that the aetiology of urolithiasis in bovines is uncertain though metabolic and nutritional factors are mainly incriminated (Weaver, 1969) ; Howard (1954) ; Udall (1959) and Said (1964) proposed the hypothesis that a mucoprotein matrix is required as a structural foundation for mineral deposition in the urinary tract. Anjaria (1969) ; Khamis and Saleh (1970) stated that the formation of urolithiasis appear to have a close relationship to castration ; while Vesudevan and Dutt (1970) found that a diet deficient in vitamin A predisposes young calves to the formation of renal calculi.

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